

## Message Text

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12  
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ITF-05 H-02 SR-02 ORM-01

VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 AID-05 L-02 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /070 W  
----- 013140

R 141430Z MAY 75  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8722  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3566

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF, VS  
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE DIPLOMAT TRAN VAN DON

PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

REFS: A. STATE 104017 B. ATHENS 3461 (NOTAL)

1. TRAN VAN DON HAS BEEN RVN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HERE SINCE JANUARY 1975 (AMBASSADOR WAS RESIDENT ROME). PREVIOUSLY, SINCE 1969, HE HAS ASSIGNED TO PARIS AS A MEMBER OF THE RVN DELEGATION. HE ENTERED THE SVN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN 1964 AND IS CLEARLY IDENTIFIED WITH THE RVN AND WILL THEREFORE NOT RETURN TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

2. IN VIEW OF HIS PREVIOUS SERVICE IN PARIS AND TIES WITH FRANCE, WHERE HE WENT TO UNIVERSITY AND HAS RELATIVES, HE PLANS, INITIALLY AT LEAST, TO GO TO FRANCE. HE UNDERSTANDS THAT HIS OLDER BROTHER, GENERAL TRAN VAN DON, WHO HAD BEEN TAKEN TO FORT CHAFFEE AT FIRST, IS NOW IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TRAN VAN DON HOPES THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO OBTAIN A VISITOR'S VISA IN ORDER TO GO TO WASHINGTON TO CONSULT WITH HIS BROTHER ABOUT HIS FUTURE.

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TRAN VAN DON WOULD LEAVE HIS FAMILY (WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN,

AND ALSO HIS MOTHER) IN PARIS DURING THIS PERIOD WITH ANOTHER BROTHER OR HIS WIFE'S RELATIVES.

3. TRAN VAN DON CALLED ON MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS TZOUNIS ON MAY 13 AND ASKED WHETHER GOG WOULD GIVE HIM ASYLUM HERE. TZOUNIS TOLD HIM IT WAS NOT THE PRACTICE OF THE GOG TO GRANT ASYLUM FORMALLY BUT THAT TRAN VAN DON AND HIS FAMILY WERE WELCOME TO STAY FOR ONE OR TWO MONTHS. IN ADDITION, TRAN VAN DON ALSO APPROACHED THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNHCR IN ATHENS FOR ASSISTANCE, ADVISING HIM HE WOULD BE GOING TO FRANCE. LATTER GAVE HIM INFORMATION ABOUT WHOM TO CONTACT IN PARIS FOR ASSISTANCE.

4. TRAN VAN DON PLANS TO CLOSE THE EMBASSY AND TURN IT OVER TO THE GREEK MFA ON MAY 2#AND WILL THEN DEPART FOR PARIS WITH HIS FAMILY. (HE IS DELAYING HIS DEPARTURE UNTIL NEXT WEEK IN EXPECTATION THAT LICENSE UNBLOCKING CHECK MENTIONED REF B WILL BE RECEIVED BY AMERICAN EXPRESS BY THEN.) HE WAS INFORMED BY TZOUNIS THAT THE NEW SAIGON GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY ADVISED THE GOG THAT THE EMBASSY BE TURNED OVER TO THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY, WHICH WILL REPRESENT ITS INTERESTS HERE, AND GOG PLANS TO DO SO.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE CAN BE GIVEN TRAN VAN DON IN PARIS, WHERE HE WILL BE CALLING ON THE EMBASSY TO APPLY FOR A VISA, AND IN FACILITATING HIS TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON TO CONSULT WITH HIS BROTHER. KUBISCH

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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## Message Attributes

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